

Minorities Continue to Lead Maryland Population Gain

(But Surprising Growth for Non-Hispanic Whites in Baltimore City and Prince George's County)

Continuing a trend from the 2000 to 2010 period, almost all of the population growth in Maryland between 2010 and 2011 was due to gains in minority population, according to recently released estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.¹ Unlike the previous decade, however, there was some growth in the non-Hispanic white population over period between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011.

Hispanics Lead in Growth

Population gains in Maryland between this 15-month period were led by increases in the Hispanic population (20,084) followed by *non-Hispanic* African Americans (15,393), Asians (10,658) and those of two or more races (4,339).² (See [Table 1](#) and [Chart 1](#).) Unlike the previous decade as a whole, over the last 18 months there was also a small increase in non-Hispanic whites (3,784).³ Between 2000 and 2010 it is estimated that there was a decline of just over 134,500 non-Hispanic whites (-4.1%) in Maryland.

[Chart 2](#) illustrates the estimated annual change for non-Hispanic whites in Maryland from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2011. In only two of these 11 years, in 2000/2001 and 2000/2011, was there a (small) gain in the Non-Hispanic white population. Population losses of non-Hispanic whites were heaviest during the 2003/2004 to 2008/2009 period. These six years of greatest non-Hispanic population decline correspond to the period when Maryland was experiencing its largest domestic net out migration flow (also shown in [Chart 2](#)). While economic vitality of the State plays a part in the ebb and flow of net domestic out migration for Maryland, much of the larger net outflows in the last decade were being fueled by the run-up in housing prices which led many people to migrate out of Maryland to bordering states, particularly to Pennsylvania, Delaware and West Virginia where housing prices were less than in Maryland. The collapse of the housing bubble and the beginning of the Great Recession at the end of 2007 led to severely reduced mobility throughout the country and dampened both net migration gains and losses for most states.

¹ Release date, May 17, 2012

² All discussion of population by race and population change by race *is for non-Hispanics*. "Hispanic" is an ethnic designation and not a race category, and Hispanics can be of any race. By separating the Hispanic estimates from the race categories, Hispanics are not double counted, and the sum of the changes for the non-Hispanic race categories plus Hispanics equals the total population change.

³ In Maryland, most Hispanics are white (79.8 percent in 2011). If white Hispanics are included in the white category, then the total change for whites between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011 is 20,004 – larger than the increase for (all) African Americans (17,630), and (all) Asians (10,931).

While net domestic migration was severely impacted by the Great Recession and the slow-paced recovery which followed, international migration continues at a steady (although somewhat reduced) pace. [Chart 3](#) illustrates the estimated annual international migration for Maryland along with the State's annual change in Hispanic population. By and large the periods of greatest Hispanic population gains were during those years when international migration was also very robust.

At the height of the growth in the Hispanic population in Maryland, from 2004/2005 to 2007/2008, the gains in Hispanics actually exceeded the combined increase for all of the non-Hispanic population. (See [Chart 4](#).)

Minorities Concentrated in Younger Age Groups

With the growth in minority population since April 1, 2010, Maryland's minority share has reached 45.6 percent by July 1, 2011, the seventh highest in the country, and well above the U.S. national average of 36.6 percent. (See [Chart 5](#).) Of the six states with higher minority concentrations than Maryland, five are majority minority, i.e. where minorities make up more than 50 percent of the total population. Only Nevada, at 46.4 percent minority, is not yet majority minority. For those states which are above Maryland in minority share, Hispanics are the largest minority group for California, Texas, New Mexico and Nevada. Asians are the largest minority group in Hawaii and African Americans are the largest minority group in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. For the U.S. as a whole, Hispanics are by far the largest minority group (at just over 52.0 million) compared to 38.3 million for non-Hispanic African Americans. (See [Table 2](#).)

While Maryland is moving towards being a minority-majority state, for much of the population it is already there. From under one years of age and up to and including age 39, minorities make up more than 50 percent of the population with two exceptions: age 24 (at 49.7 percent minority) and age 25 (at 49.8 percent minority). (See [Chart 6](#).)

Jurisdiction Detail

Minority Growth Leads Most Jurisdictions

Minority growth made up a majority (i.e. more than 50 percent) of total population increases for all but two jurisdictions.⁴ (See [Table 3](#).) The two exceptions were in Queen Anne's County where minority population gains made up 44.6 percent of the County's total population increase, and in St. Mary's County, where the minority share was 47.5 percent of the total gain. The largest numeric increases in minority population were in Montgomery (17,523), Baltimore (8,091), Anne Arundel (5,510), Howard (4,912) and Prince George's (4,733) counties. Combined these five counties accounted for 80.0 percent of the total minority population change, about the same as their share of total population change (79.6%).

⁴ Not including those jurisdictions that lost population between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011: Baltimore City and Allegany, Garrett, Caroline, and Somerset counties.

Black, Hispanic, Asian and Non-Hispanic White Growth Dominate in Different Counties

While many counties had substantial minority population gains, the type of minority population growth was not uniform. The largest minority gains in Montgomery County, for example, were in Hispanics and African Americans, a bit of a change from the past decade when the largest increases were in Hispanics and Asians. Over the 15-month period, Montgomery had the largest increases in the State for Hispanics, African Americans and Asians. (See [Chart 7](#), [Chart 8](#) and [Chart 9](#). Also see [Table 4](#), [Table 5](#) and [Table 6](#).)

For Baltimore County, population gains were led by increases in African Americans (second largest in the State) and in Asians (third largest in the State). This continues a trend from the last decade when over the 2000 to 2010 period Baltimore County had the largest increase in African Americans in the State. Anne Arundel County's growth was led by Hispanics and African Americans, while Howard County's two largest gains were from African Americans and Asians. Howard County had the second largest increase in Asians over the 15-month period, and combined with Montgomery County, accounted for just over one-half (51.3%) of the total statewide increase in the Asian population. During the last decade, Howard County was the only jurisdiction in Maryland in which Asians had the largest numeric population increase.

Minority growth in Prince George's County was led by gains in the Hispanic population, the second largest increase in the State. Combined with Montgomery County, the two accounted for 55.0 percent of the Hispanic population increase statewide. The one minority group that did not grow in Prince George's since 2010 is African Americans. Estimates indicate that there was a small decrease in the non-Hispanic African American population (-432) from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011, one of only three jurisdictions in which there was a decline. This was a sharp reversal from the last decade when over the 2000 to 2010 period Prince George's County's African American population grew by over 50,000, the second largest increase in the State after Baltimore County.

Non-Hispanic Whites Increase in Baltimore City and Prince George's County

Although Baltimore City had a loss of just under 1,500 people in the April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 period, it did register gains in Hispanics (878), Asians (237), and most surprisingly, non-Hispanic whites (1,416). (See [Chart 10](#).) This latest increase represents an abrupt turnaround from the last 10 years when the City lost nearly 27,500 non-Hispanic whites. The bulk of the recent increase was in the younger age groups, particularly for the 0 – 9 and 25 – 34 year olds, but there also was some increase in the 60 -69 year old group. (See [Chart 11](#).)

Where the City continued to lose population was in non-Hispanic African Americans. The drop of nearly 4,400 over the 15-month period was the largest in the State.

Prince George's County also experienced a surprising increase in non-Hispanic whites between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011, with its gain of 3,080 the largest in the State. Like Baltimore City, the gains for non-Hispanic whites in Prince George's are concentrated in the younger age groups. (See [Chart 12](#).)

Over the 2000 to 2010 period, Prince George's lost nearly 66,000 non-Hispanic whites, by far the largest in the State.

With gains in non-Hispanic whites, both Baltimore City and Prince George's County were the only two jurisdictions in Maryland to have a (small) reduction in minority population share over the 2010 to 2011 period. (See [Table 7.](#)) Ironically, Prince George's (84.8%) and Baltimore City (71.6%) have the two largest minority percentages in the State. Other jurisdictions which are already majority minority are Montgomery County (51.3%) and Charles County (52.1%), while Somerset County (47.8%) and Howard County (41.5%) are both over 40 percent. (See [Map 1.](#))

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